



Bendraeth Rural District Council.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR 1966.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31st 1966

To: The Chairman and Gentlemen of the Deudraeth Rural District Council.
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Health Report for the year ended 31st December, 1966.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population was 7,090 (7170 in 1965).

There were 108 live births (the same as in 1965) and 1 stillbirth. Two infants died in the first year of life, one of them in the first week. There were no maternal deaths.

The total number of deaths was 120; 74 of these were from strokes and heart and circulatory disease (including coronary thrombosis). Eleven deaths were due to cancer.

Two new cases of tuberculosis were notified and there were two deaths from this disease.

The table below gives a comparison with the previous four years.

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962
Population	7090	7170	7410	7060	7060
Live births	108	108	136	136	123
Live birth rate (per 1,000 pop.)	13.8	15.06	18.35	19.26	17.42
Stillbirths	1	2	3	1	nil
Infant deaths	2	2	1	2	2
Maternal deaths	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Deaths	120	109	115	129	124
T.B. New Cases	2	3	6	5	4
T.B. deaths	2	2	1	1	1
Deaths from cancer	11	16	18	14	19

Below are some figures from the Annual Report from 1916, 50 years from 1966. This was of course an unusual year but the figures may be of interest.

From the Annual Report for 1916

Population of Merioneth	40,432
Population of Deudraeth	6,916
Number of Live Births	151
Live birth rate per 1,000 pop.	20.6
Infant mortality. No. of deaths under one year - 17.	112.5 per 1,000 births.

Cause of death

Whooping Cough	3
Diphtheria and croup	4
Influenza	3
Erysipelas	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5
Tuberculous Meningitis	2
Cancer Malignant disease	13
Rheumatic Fever	1
Meningitis	1
Organic Heart Disease	7
Bronchitis	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	3
Cirrhosis of the liver	1
Nephritis and Brights disease	6
Parturition (apart from puerperal fever)	1
Congenital debility	6
Violence, apart from suicide	1
Other defined diseases	39
Causes ill defined or unknown	1
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Total	105
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I wish to thank the Public Health Inspector, the Clerk and all the other council officials for their co-operation during the year.

Finally I wish to thank the Council members for their courtesy and support.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

H. FRANCIS,

District Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

SECTION A

Area of DEUDRAETH District	-	75,493 acres
Rateable Value	-	£372,657
Population (Registrar General's figures)	-	7,090
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	-	£644. 10. 2 ¹ / ₄ c.
Number of inhabited houses (According to the Rate Books) at end of year	-	2,707

VITAL STATISTICS

Comparability Factors	-	
Births	..	1.19
Deaths	..	0.65

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	- 108	56	52
Legitimate	- 103	54	49
Illegitimate	- 5	2	3
<u>Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population</u>	- 13.8 (16.4 connected)		
1965 figures	15.06		

Illegitimae Live Births (per 1,000 population) - 0.7

STILL BIRTHS

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	- 1	nil	1
<u>Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population</u>	- 0.14		
<u>Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births</u>	- 9.18		

<u>TOTAL BIRTHS</u>	(Live & Still)	109	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	Live	- 108	56	52
	Still	- 1		1

DEATHS

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	- 2	1	1
Legitimate	- 2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	nil	nil
<u>Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>	- 18.5		
1965 figures	- 18.5		

Deaths of Legitimate Infants Mortality
(per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births) 19.4

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants Mortality
(per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births) nil

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	1	nil
Legitimate	1	nil
Illegitimate	nil	nil

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE</u>		
Total	1	nil
Legitimate	1	nil
Illegitimate	nil	nil

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate - 9.26

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate - 9.26

Perinatal Mortality Rate - 18.3

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) -

MATERNAL MORTALITY (Rate per 1,000 Live Still Births) - nil
1965 figures - nil

<u>DEATHS</u>	Total	-	120	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
				63	57
Rate per 1,000 population	-	17			
1965 figures	-	15.2			

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Total - 11

Rate per 1,000 population - 1.55
1965 figures - 2.23

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Total - 2

Rate per 1,000 population - 0.28
1965 figures - 0.28

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority

One Medical Officer of Health
Two Public Health Inspectors.

2. Laboratory Facilities

Chemical Analysis carried out by the Public Analyst, Chester.
Water examination (bacteriological) and examination of milk by
the Public Health Laboratory, Conway.

(3) Ambulance Facilities

One full time situated at Penrhyndeudraeth

(4) Infant Welfare Clinics

Held at Penrhyndeudraeth fortnightly on Tuesdays at the Church Hall

Held at Trawsfynydd 2nd Tuesday in the month at Ebenezer Congregational Church Vestry.

Held at Harlech 1st Monday in each month at the Library.

(5) Ante Natal Clinics

Held at Blaenau Ffestiniog, Isallt, every Monday.

(6) Orthopaedic Clinic

Held at Blaenau Hospital on alternate Thursdays.

(7) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC

Held every week at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(8) IMMUNISATION

Immunisation is carried out at the Infant Welfare Clinics and by the General Practitioners in their surgeries. Immunisation of babies and young children also carried out by the School Medical Officer in the Primary School.

(9) HOSPITALS

There is no general hospital in the area.

One long-stay hospital for the aged is situated at Penrhyndeudraeth.

(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year :- 68

Scarlet Fever	nil
Bacillary Dysentery	nil
Whooping Cough	nil
Measles	63
Infantile Paralysis	nil
Pneumonia	4
Erysipelas	1

TUBERCULOSISNEW CASESPulmonary TOTAL - 2

Males 2 Females - nil

Non-pulmonary TOTAL - nilTUBERCULOSIS DEATHSTOTAL - 2

Pulmonary Males - 2 Females - nil

Non-pulmonary -nil

New Cases and Mortality during 1966 in age groups

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
under 1 year								
1 year								
2 - 4								
5 - 9								
10 - 14								
15 - 19								
20 - 24								
25 - 34								
35 - 44								
45 - 54								
55 - 64	1							
65 - 74	1				1			
75 and over					1			
<u>TOTAL</u>	2				2			

CAUSES OF DEATH 1966

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	2	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-
Other infective and parasitic disease	-	1
Cancer Stomach	1	3
" Bronchus	-	-
" Breast	-	2
" Uterus	1	-
" Other sites	3	1
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	12
Coronary disease, angina	14	3
Hypertension with heart disease	2	-
Other heart diseases	10	19
Other circulatory disease	2	1
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	2	4
Bronchitis	5	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
All other accidents	-	3
Suicide	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-
	<hr/> 63	<hr/> 57

FOOD HYGIENE

Advice was given to food handlers generally during the year.

No. of Prosecutions

None.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1966

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

Houses - Public Health Acts	-	437
Houses - Housing Acts	-	371
Complaints investigated	-	168
Factories	-	29
Rodent Destruction	-	856
Petroleum Acts	-	37
Shops	-	69
Catering Establishments	-	64
Vehicles Conveying Food	-	81
Bakehouses	-	7
Fried Fish Shops	-	7
Butchers Shops	-	34
Ice Cream Premises	-	27
Unsound Foods	-	18
Houses Disinfected	-	1
Water samples	-	42
Sewage Effluent Samples	-	17
Miscellaneous	-	159
Caravan Sites	-	94
Refuse Sites	-	73
Meat Inspection	-	129
Water Supplies	-	47
Sewerage & Sewage Disposal	-	238
Informal Notices served	-	33
Statutory Notices served: P.H. Acts	-	5

HOUSING REPORT

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.

(a) After informal action by Council	-	23
(b) After formal notice under:-		
1. Public Health Acts	-	7
2. Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(c) Under section 24 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

Housing Improvement Grants Approved

Standard Grant	-	29
Discretionary Grants	-	6

Planning and Building Regulations applications during 1966

Building Regulations applications	-	124
Planning applications	-	232
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		356
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WATER SUPPLY

The Council's duties as water undertakers were transferred to the Merioneth Water Board during the year. The quality of the water supply to part of Harlech and to the villages of Trawsfynydd, Talsarnau, Gellilydan, Maentwrog, Rhyd and Croesor was maintained by chlorination throughout the year. Samples for bacteriological analysis of all supplies were taken regularly, by the Council and by the Board, and examined by the Public Health Laboratory at Conway. A few complaints were received regarding inadequacy of supply. No information is available on the fluoride content of the various supplies.

Dwelling houses supplied from Public Water Mains

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Direct to the houses</u>	<u>By means of standpipes.</u>
Llanbedr	132	
Harlech	491	4
Talsarnau	208	3
Llandecwyn	32	
Penrhyndeudraeth	756	2
Llanfrothen	133	
Maentwrog	179	
Trawsfynydd	298	3

Sewerage & Sewage Disposal

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district as a whole are reasonably adequate, although four hamlets are still dependant on private cesspools. Schemes for providing sewerage disposal works at Penrhyndeudraeth and Llanbedr - where disposal is at present direct sewer to river, were drawn up. Sewerage schemes for the hamlets of Gwynfryn and Soar, approved in 1965, were held up in order that the possibility of connecting the schemes to adjoining village schemes could be investigated.

Every effort was made to maintain and improve the efficiency of all the sewage disposal works, in order to discharge well treated effluents complying with the required standards.

Slaughter of Animals

The slaughterhouse at Cae Iago, Ffestiniog continued to operate satisfactorily during the year, and all animals slaughtered were inspected as to their fitness for human consumption.

Food Hygiene

Catering establishments, grocers' and butchers' shops and ice cream premises were inspected when it was found that generally a good standard of hygiene was observed, and that occupiers of food premises were aware of the need for regular renewal of food handling equipment and utensils, and for regular repair and redecoration of premises. I wish that more time were available to pay more regular visits to food premises, as

/standards...

standards do tend to fall when inspections are too infrequent. Mobile shops and delivery vans operating within but based without the district continued to present a problem as far as regular inspection was concerned, but generally a good standard of hygiene was observed.

Number of Food Premises Subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

Catering (incl. hotels, cafes, canteens)

48

Retail Shops (incl. general grocers, butchers)

56

No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 - 104
 No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies - 66
 No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 - 66

Rodent Control

The Council employ one full-time operator, in conjunction with the Ffestiniog U.D.C. The district's sewers were treated during November, and all refuse sites and sewage disposal works were regularly inspected and treated. The present regular and systematic survey work carried out by the operator is the only way that rodent infestations may be detected before they become a major problem.

Number and purpose of visits made during 1966

Complaints

Inspections

Treatments

116

Private Dwellings

553

287

1

Council Properties

184

150

18

Business Premises

61

29

8

Agricultural Properties

58

9

Refuse Collection

The Council collect refuse once weekly throughout the district, apart from some isolated houses and farms. The service was extended to cover all additional dwellings erected during the year.

During the summer, refuse and litter from the major caravan camps was collected daily, and all litter baskets throughout the district were emptied on an average of four days per week.

There are three refuse disposal tips in the district and disposal on each is partially controlled. Difficulty was again experienced in finding sufficient and suitable covering material for the refuse deposited, and I feel that the Council must now consider employing a full-time attendant to control refuse tips.

Housing

Some further progress was made with the clearance of unfit houses insofar as some unfit houses were closed, and also the owners of other empty unfit houses submitted satisfactory proposals for repair and improvement. The relatively few occupied unfit houses remaining in the district present difficulties as they are mostly owner/occupied and most of the occupiers are aged and unwilling to be re-housed.

4/10/67.

D.J. JONES,
Public Health Inspector/Surveyor.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	38	29	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	40	29	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found - NIL.

PART VIII OF THE ACT - Outwork (Sections 133 and 134) - NIL.

